



THE SPIRES

Jan. 24- Jan. 30, 2010

Glorifying God through knowing Christ and making Him known

Your Courtyard Columbarium A Very Special Place!

Our church is blessed to have a columbarium that provides a final resting place for current and previous church members and clergy and their loved ones. It is fitting that the remains of our loved ones should be surrounded by the church that many of them supported when they were alive. With its central location in the Courtyard, the columbarium currently has 96 niches in two cabinets, with each niche holding one or two urns. Approximately 55 of the niches have been reserved to date. There is room for two more cabinets on the Sanctuary wall as well as room for cabinets on the opposite wall.

The Courtyard was recently decorated for Christmas. At night, the Christmas lights added special warmth. In addition to being the home for our columbarium, the Courtyard continues as a welcoming part of the church. On Sunday mornings in summer, coffee is served. Other church functions, such as receptions or flower shows, are held in the Courtyard. The Columbarium Committee plants seasonal flowers in the eight urns in the Courtyard. Currently, yellow winter pansies are featured, and pink tulips will appear this spring.

For more information on the columbarium, pick up a copy of two flyers, "Courtyard Columbarium" and "Columbarium Inurnment Service", in one of the church literature racks. If you would like to receive these flyers by email as a pdf document, send a request to jimleecornell@chartertn.net. If you need additional information or wish to reserve a niche, see the Finance Office or a member of the Columbarium Committee.

Johns Island Fundraiser Dinner

February 12 or 13

**All proceeds go towards the Johns Island
Mission Trip.**

Cost: \$20 per person

7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

The Johns Island Dinner is back! Our 5th Annual Dinner will once again feature Master Chef Sparky Dyson and his amazing **seven-course menu!** On February 12 or 13 you can experience a night of enchantment with your friends and church family! This event gets better every year, and we hope you will join us on one of these two nights. Child care will be provided for ages four and under. **To make a reservation, please call 224-1502 and let us know which night you are coming and whether you need child care.**

Reservations are due by noon on February 9.

Inside This Issue

News/Worship	2
Missions	3-4
Forever Young	5-6
Discipleship	7
"Don't Miss This"	8

Contact Us

Church Office	423-246-4471
Prayer Line	423-224-1544
Reservations	423-224-1502
Child Care Ctr	423-224-1527
Fax Number	423-246-1361
website:	www.fbsumc.org

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Recently Hospitalized . . .

Holston Valley: Bill Thomsen

Health South: Gale Joh

Indian Path: Diane Shaver, Edith Suit

Discharged: Joe Morley, Bill Price

In Memory of

our church family members

Ruby Jones Suit
January 14, 2010

—
Mildred Smith
January 15, 2010



to **Reva Cochran** on the death of her brother,
Robert Henry, who died January 12.



Congratulations to **Matt Oliver and Rebecca Baldwin** who were married on January 2.

41 Sponsors Needed for College Valentines

Please sign up for one of the 41 college students who need a sponsor for their valentine. Cost is \$12. Please call Darres Carter at 224-1506 with any questions.

Chancel Arrangements . . .



The chancel arrangements are in honor of Trixie Stringer by the Friday Night Supper Club.

WORSHIP

Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 24, 2010

Contemporary Worship Services

Fellowship Hall – 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Scripture: Luke 15: 11-32

Sermon: *The Prodigal Son*

Andrew Amodei

Traditional Worship Services

Sanctuary—8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Scripture: I Corinthians 12: 12-31a

Sermon: *Finding Our Place (part two)*

Clark Jenkins

Sanctuary—9:40 a.m.

Scripture: Luke 4: 14-21

Sermon: *Jesus--A Watershed Moment*

Fred Richard

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

“Joy” TV Ministry: 9:30 a.m. *see below
Radio Broadcast: 10:00 a.m., WKPT (1400 AM)

To Watch JOY TV

COMCAST SYSTEMS: We are broadcasting on Sundays at 12:30 p.m.; Mondays at 7:00 p.m.; and Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m..on the following stations: Abingdon, VA Ch. 2; Bristol & Gray Ch. 14.

CHARTER SYSTEMS: We are broadcasting on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.; Mondays at 7:00 p.m.; and Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. on Ch. 13 for Johnson City, Kingsport and Rogersville.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

9:30 a.m.

Message: Clark Jenkins

Our Father's Place

4:00 p.m. in Chapel

Message: Andrew Amodei

Evening Worship

6:00 p.m. in Chapel

Message: Andrew Amodei

After Hours “On Call” List for the Week

Sunday, January 24 Margaret Deans (276-698-0812)

Monday, January 25 Clark Jenkins (292-2795)

Tuesday, January 26 Andrew Amodei (765-6197)

Wednesday, January 27 Clark Jenkins (292-2795)

Thursday, January 28 Andrew Amodei (765-6197)

Friday, January 29 Jack Weikel (292-9000)

Saturday, January 30 Jack Weikel (292-9000)

January 17, 2010

Morning Worship	906
<i>Our Father's Place</i>	16
Evening Worship	27
Total Worship Attendance	949
Sunday School	N/A

Spotlight on Missions



Through FBSUMC at Home and Around the World

Lightnin' Charlie to Perform at Sudan Well Benefit Concert



We use water for all sorts of things; showers, watering the lawn, cleaning our vehicles but most importantly for drinking. In fact, the average American **individual** uses more than 140 gallons of water a day. Compare that with the average African **family** that uses only 5 gallons of water a day. Hundreds of thousands are without access to clean drinking water because of contaminated water sources. Hundreds of children in southern Sudan die daily due to unclean and inadequate water. We have a chance to make a difference.

On **January 29th at 7 p.m. at the Renaissance center in Kingsport, Lightnin' Charlie**, a blues/rock n' roll artist, voted best local artist in the Mountain South in 2006 and 2007, and other special guests will perform a benefit concert to support the effort to provide clean water to Sudan. **Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for students.** For every **two dollars raised, a dollar in matching funds** from the Holston Conference will be provided. The money will go toward building wells in Sudan, Africa to combat the lack of clean drinking water. **Each well costs \$10,000 to \$12,000** to construct and provides clean water to more than 500 people. The goal is to send enough money to

build at least one well. With your help, our community has a chance to make a difference and provide something some people have never experienced; clean water.

For more information please contact **423-392-8416** or visit either of the following websites: www.kingsportarts.org or <http://holston.org/ministries/missions/hope-sudan>.

Atlanta Accepting Disaster Response Teams

Teams are now being requested in response to the floods experienced in parts of Atlanta, Georgia, last September. Many homes were destroyed or damaged by relentless rains and have been gutted and are ready to restore and rebuild. Bill Campbell will be leading a team from First Broad Street and Mt. Carmel UMC on February 14th – 20th. This is open to anyone wishing to help in rebuilding efforts and the cost per person, which covers food, insurance, and housing is \$125.00. If you would like to know more about this trip, you may call Bill Campbell at 423-323-8516. To obtain an application for the trip, call April at the Mission Office at 423-224-1531.

United Methodist Men January 25

The United Methodist Men meet on the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 pm for a meal and a program. Cost for the meal is \$6.00. The January program will be Terry Muse who will join us to speak about his passion for Kairos Ministry. This ministry is similar to an Emmaus Walk except is provided in the prison system. The Mission of Kairos is: **To bring Christ's love and forgiveness to all incarcerated individuals, their families, and those who work with them, and to assist in the transition of becoming a productive citizen.**

Please plan to join us for this exciting program and time of fellowship, and bring someone along with you. You may make a reservation for dinner by calling the reservation line at 423-224-1502.

Spotlight on Missions



Holston's RESPONSE to the Haiti Disaster

Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church • January 2010

Letter from Bishop Swanson:

“Holding up the banner of Christ”

To the people of the Holston Conference:

I greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Holston's first response to the Haiti disaster is to ask all persons and congregations to offer prayers for the people of Haiti. In the poorest country in the western hemisphere, where people do not suffer from poverty but from extreme poverty, these people are now suffering again in an extreme way. Please pray for the persons there and for those who are frantically working to bring aid to the victims of this disaster. May all feel God's loving presence with them. Please also pray for Rev. Sam Dixon and Clint Raab, UMCOR officials who are currently in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. No contact has yet been established with them, and we pray for their safety. In addition, some young adults from Holston Conference (Michael and Forrest Shroyer from Pearisburg First and Jon Kilgore from Pulaski First) are currently in Haiti on a mission trip with a group from Blacksburg First UMC (Virginia Conference). Their team is okay, but their travel plans are unsure.

Our second response will be to provide monetary aid through UMCOR. The Advance Special number to use is #418325. Checks may be sent to Holston Conference marked with this Advance Special number. As always, 100% of the funds donated will go directly to Haiti to help alleviate the suffering there.

Finally, UMCOR will need lots of health kits. Churches that want to provide a “hands-on” response are encouraged to prepare kits, and we will coordinate a manner in which to have these delivered to the Sager-Brown depot in Louisiana. Information about the contents of kits may be found on the back of this page or at: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/>

If churches prefer to donate money for kits instead of purchasing supplies and shipping them, the Advance Special number for funds for kits is #901440. Checks for relief supplies may also be sent to Holston Conference and marked with this Advance Special number.

Again, thank you for your support and keep up the godly work.

Yours in Christ,

James E. Swanson, Sr.

Resident Bishop Holston Annual Conference

January 13, 2010

Health Kit (Value: \$12 per kit):

Place these items inside a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", no kitchen towels) • 1 washcloth • 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers) • 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes) • 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages

(NOTE: UMCOR Sager Brown is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before it is sent. Please include \$1 for each kit you send toward the purchase of toothpaste.)

Important Kit Assembly Information

All items included in kits must be NEW items. All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items – nothing more.

Do NOT include any personal notes, money or additional materials in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.

Shipping Kits

Complete 2 packing lists—one for your records and one to put on the shipping box. Paste the shipping label and packing list on the outside of each box you send to UMCOR Sager Brown. The packing list helps the depot to quickly process kits.

Processing & Shipping Costs: Please enclose an envelope containing at least \$1 for each kit you send. This donation enables kits to be sent without delay to areas in need.

We will coordinate with Districts for pick-up of these kits.

Forever Young



Forever Young Fellowship

On Tuesday, January 26th from 11-1, we will hear from “golden” couples who have been married for 50+ years. John and Billie Middaugh, Bob and Bettie Vincent, and Fred and Mary Ann Himelwright, to name a few, will share their stories and secrets to a long and loving marriage. In addition to the Over 70 Luncheon where everyone 70+ is honored, we will also honor the longevity of marriages for those who have celebrated 50+ years of marriage with several special occasions throughout 2010. Menu is: Beef Stew, corn bread, Apple Autumn Congealed Salad and dessert- \$6 per person. Call 224-1502 by Friday, January 22nd.

The “Not so Newlywed Game”

Along with the same theme of honoring our Forever Young adults who have celebrated being married for 50+ years, please join us for a special and fun Wednesday Night on February 10th as we have loads of fun recognizing these members and playfully reenacting our version of the Newly Wed Game. Les Heaton, alias Bob Eubanks, will host the game show and you’ll want to witness the friendly competition among Ann and Kermit Addington, Bobbie and Jim Hutchins and Doris and Jimmy Dexter. IF YOU HAVE BEEN MARRIED FOR 50+ YEARS (as of 12/31/10), PLEASE JOIN US AS OUR GUEST FOR THIS EVENT. Please call in your reservation today at 224-1502 and let Tammy know you are a golden couple or person. (Someone whose spouse has gone on to be with the Lord but did spend 50+ years with that spouse) We’ll have other special touches for the evening.

Bad Boys of the Bible with Barbara Goodlett

A 6-week Bible Study facilitated by Barbara Goodlett - Bad Boys of the Bible - begins on Tuesday, January 19th and will meet from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in room 141. Although this study is geared towards Forever Young adults, anyone may participate- both male and female. Call 224-1513 if you plan to participate. Books are \$16.

Blood Pressure Screening & Medication Check-up

On Tuesday, January 26, from 10 a.m. - 11a.m. (Right before FY Fellowship – 11-1), blood pressure and pulse Checks will be taken in the Welcome Center and Dan Gmyrek, Pharm. D. will be available to go over your meds with you and dispose of any medications anyone might need to discard. Let Joy know if you want a session with Dan. He will meet with you in Joy’s office to ensure privacy.

Day of Discipleship for Church Leadership

On Sunday, January 24th, the Kingsport District will hold 6 workshops from 3-5 p.m. at Colonial Heights UMC. Please contact Janet Manning if you plan to attend. The workshop topics are:

Evangelism/Hospitality with Janet Manning, our very own Stewardship with Cliff Amos, Director of Gift Planning, Holston Conference Foundation Finance and Treasurer with John Tate, Director of Finance for the HC Staff Parish Relations with David Graves, Trustees with Gene Frazier, HC board of Trustees Member, District Assessment with Victor Dingus, Wesley Leadership Institute Resource

Can You Hear Me Now?

Mary Lee Bagwell, an audiologist and member of our church, will provide more free hearing screenings on Wednesday night, January 27, from 5 to 7 p.m. Contact Joy to reserve your time (jeastridge@fbsumc.org or 224-1512).

Prayer Shawls and Blankets

The Stitch and Pray ministry continues to bless both our church members and those with whom we come in contact. If you know of someone who has been ill or who has received a difficult diagnosis, then please feel free to send them a blanket or shawl on behalf of our church and in the name of Christ. The Stitch and Pray group meets each 3rd Wednesday at 10 a.m. We’ve lots of yarn to share so come and knit, crochet and fellowship!

Caregivers Connect

Jim Cornell will talk on “Taking Financial Care of Your Loved Ones” at our next Caregivers meeting on Wednesday, February 3, from noon until 1 p.m. in room 241. Jim will cover: how to bring up finances in conversation with loved ones; some important matters to cover; as well as his personal care giving experience. Feel free to bring your lunch and eat during the meeting.

10 Gospel Promises for Later in Life

While secular society offers long term care insurance, Jesus offers the promise of abundant life in the here and now as well as in heaven. Learn from Jane Marie Thibault’s sensitive writings how to make the most of God’s gift of longer life. Facilitated by Lynn Sorrell, this study will be held on Sundays, February 14th thru March 14th from 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. in room 141. Cost of the book is \$10. (Please note the change in dates.)

Writing Your Own Story with Billie Chesney

Billie Chesney will help you find the words to write stories and memories of your life - especially your faith- and will offer you tips and encouragement for passing along important stories to your family. There’s no book for this class but there will be written homework. The class begins on Tuesday, March 2 and goes thru March 23 from 10-11:30 a.m. in room 141.

Parenting/Grand parenting with Love and Logic

FBS is offering an excellent parenting/grand parenting workshop called Love and Logic: Helping Parents, Grandparents and Teachers raise Responsible kids. Presented by Holly Roe from Kodak UMC, Holly is the mother of three children with a degree in psychology and human services. This two part workshop will: Help you understand what kind of parent/grandparent you are. Teach you practical techniques you can immediately put into practice. Help you build a happier family and have more fun with your children. Grandparents, teachers, and mentors.

- Friday, February 19 (6:30 - 8:30 p.m.) and
- Saturday, February 20 (10:00 - 12:00 noon).
- Childcare will be provided.
- Reservations deadline February 14, 2010.
- Cost: \$10.00/single \$20.00/couple*

*Couples must reside in the same household or parent the same children.

Special Volunteers Needed!!!!!!

Adults and older youth, who love being with school age children and are safe sanctuary trained, are needed to watch movies and play games (in the Wesley Wing) while their parents participate in the Parenting/Grand parenting Seminar on Friday, February 19th from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. OR on Saturday, the 20th from 10 – 12noon. Please call Retta Overturf at 224-1546 if you can help.

The Courtyard Columbarium

The Columbarium Committee has recently updated the brochure, “Courtyard Columbarium”, to contain the more inclusive language for eligibility that was recently approved by the Trustees. The Columbarium is there to serve all past and present church members, clergy and their loved ones! A new brochure, “Columbarium Inurnment Service”, provides guidance on how to plan an inurnment service. These brochures can be found in the church literature racks or at the church office.”

Jubilation

Brochures with details of this conference-wide event for older adults will be available soon. Make sure you’ve marked your calendar for April 11-13 at Meadow View. It’s in our own backyard and will have some of the best speakers in the UM church. Scholarships are available.

The Shepherd Center of Kingsport

The mission of the Shepherd Center is to provide programs and services that enable older adults to live safely and independently in their own homes as long as is appropriate. In order to help these adults “age in place”, loving volunteers are needed to: provide transportation to doctor appointments; man the call line; deliver equipment; and pick up prescriptions for those who can not do it for themselves. FBS has always been instrumental in the development of the Shepherd Center and continues to financially support this much needed ministry. To

help in any way, or to refer an older adult who needs this help, please call 392-4514.

Choosing a Long Term Care Facility

Earlier this year Debby Morrell, the Ombudsman (advocate) for Upper East Tennessee, and Kermit Addington, one of the volunteer ombudsmen, both presented valuable information to the Caregiver Support group and shared thoughts on how to choose a long term care facility and to be a good advocate for loved ones in assisted living or nursing homes. Joy summarized their suggestions:

1. Get to know the staff well. Learn their names, positions and responsibilities so you can speak to the correct person about any issue.
2. Work with the social worker, at the facility, on problems that may arise. Most facilities have a system to address complaints.
3. Billing questions? Go to the business office administrator and ask for itemized bills. By law they must provide these.
4. If you need the Ombudsman, she will come to any care meetings by invitation and be and will advocate for your loved one.
5. On routine visits to care facilities, the Ombudsman checks: the general condition of the nursing home; call light response time; whether or not water is readily available to the resident; whether or not the call light is in reach; whether or not fingernails and teeth are clean, etc.
6. If you want to know about the quality of care, see how the staff interacts with the residents in the dining area. Does the staff interact with the residents or only with one another? Do they show respect and address the residents appropriately?
7. Check on activities to see if they are actually carried out and whether residents participate.
8. Most facilities have a system to address complaints.

Roots and Shoots Third Annual Luncheon

Join us Thursday, February 11, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Colonial Heights UMC (631 Lebanon Road, Kingsport, TN). Guest speaker John Ousley will be here from Galax, VA. The meal will be catered by Pratts. The cost will be \$7.00 per person. Get your check to the Finance Office by Wednesday, February 3. Reservations are binding.

Retta’s Contact Information

Monday 9-5
Tuesday 11-5
Wednesday 9:30-5
Off Thursday and Friday
Call 224-1546 or email
rettao@fbsumc.org.

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Production Team Leader Needed

First Act, FBS Drama Ministry, needs to cast a key player in the 2010 Lenten production of *Last Supper*. Please contact Lynn Sorrell (247-8470) or Kay Ann Smith (288-2468) to learn about serving as the Production Team Leader for *Last Supper*, a dramatic and meaningful worship experience.



Single Vision Dinner and Dance

Monday, January 25, 6:30 p.m., Room L44

(lower level, Wesley Wing--Dinner and Line Dancing)

Please join Single Vision on Monday, January 25, for a fun evening of dinner and line dancing led by a well-known dancing legend, our own Bob Smith. If you don't know how to line dance, Bob will teach you. Just come watch and enjoy the music and fellowship. A dinner of country-style steak, mashed potatoes, peas, salad, bread, dessert and drinks will be served at 6:30 p.m. at a cost of \$6.00. Dinner reservations are required by noon on Friday, January 22 by calling 224-1502. No reservations required for dance only. Program begins at 7:00 p.m.

Singles/Young Adult Volleyball

Meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fridays in Woodyard Gym

Join friends for fun and exercise.

Contact: Tony Clark 378-5299

Membership Sunday

Our next new membership Sunday will be January 24. For more information, please contact Janet Batts at jbatts@fbsumc.org or call 224-1514.

The Read 'Em and Reap Book Club

You are invited to join The Read 'Em and Reap Book Club on the third Thursday of each month at FBS. Mingle and munch begins at 6:15 in the church library followed by a lively discussion from 6:30 to 7:30 of the following books: ***Three Cups of Tea*** by Greg Mortenson (**Feb. 18**), ***The Help*** by Kathryn Stockett (**March 18**), ***Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate*** by Jerry Bridges (**April 15**) and ***Julie and Julia*** by Julie Powell (**May 20**). For more information, you may contact either Beth Geno at iegeno@embarqmail.com or Kay Ann Smith at 288-2468.

Wednesday Nights 5:30 p.m.-- January 27

Program: Town Squares Musical Presentation

Menu: taco salad, corn chips, banana pudding

Make your dinner reservations by calling 224-1502 by noon on Tuesday. You must call 224-1502 to set up standing reservations.

Adults: \$6; Children 5-11 years: \$3;
Under 5: Free; Family Maximum: \$25

Please feel free to attend the program even if you are unable to come for the meal.

"Bring One" Items

The Bring One items for the week of Sunday, January 24, will be beef stew and/or chicken and dumplings. The items for the week of Sunday, January 31, will be peanut butter and/or canned fruit. ***Special request: The Food Ministry is in need of toiletry items as well as toboggans and gloves.*** Thank you for your support.

Fifth Sunday Offering

Children and families who are caught up in a life of despair caused by family breakdown or poverty need the loving care of the church and community to turn their lives around and to find their God-given potential. Lives are transformed through the ministry of Holston United Methodist Home for Children. Please be generous with your Fifth Sunday gift to Holston Home in Sunday School on Sunday, January 31.

Usher Training Traditional Worship Services Saturday, February 6

Training for ushers at the 8:30, 9:40, and 10:45 traditional worship services is scheduled at 9:00-11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Training is open to all current ushers as well as anyone who desires to assist in creating a worshipful presence for the congregation by greeting, helping seat people, handing out bulletins, etc. If you wish to serve in this ministry, please contact Nancy Tate at ntate@fbsumc.org or 224-1507.

A MESSAGE
FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

God Is Good!

I'll have to admit that at the end of November I was the most concerned about our financial situation that I had been in my nine years as Business Administrator. Our budget deficit was over \$150,000 and we only had one month to catch up. While December is almost always a very good month for giving, we have never had one that was going to make up a deficit of this magnitude. I'll have to admit that I was praying that we could get the deficit under \$50,000.


Well, let me jump to the bottom line. We ended 2009 with a surplus of \$46,687. Thanks to each of you for your gifts to our Church. For the year, we received \$1,795,698 in pledges; 98.1% of what was pledged. We also had plate offerings of \$441,491. Adding the revenue from the Child Care Center, Kitchen, and several small accounts and our total revenue was \$2,870,893; ~ \$81K more than last year. This is an overall increase in revenue of 2.8% in an economy that had contracted most of the year. I think this speaks loudly that you have your priorities in the right place. Thanks again for your generous gifts.

On the expense side of the ledger, you and the staff are also to be commended. In the fall when the Stewardship and Finance Committee began asking folks to control spending, you did what was needed. For the year, we only had two areas that exceeded their budget and then by only a few hundred dollars. The expenses in most areas were well under budget. Our total expenses in our Operating Budget were \$2,824,006, \$83,363 dollars under budget, but \$75,524 more than 2008. Both our Kitchen and Child Center did better than expected. The Kitchen actually showed a profit of \$939 and the Child Center's deficit was only \$5,894 versus a budgeted deficit of \$26,455. Thanks to everyone who worked hard in utilizing our resources wisely in carrying out our ministries and programs.

In our 50+ designated accounts, we had total revenue of \$639,413 and expenses of \$591,895. Although one of our designated accounts, Faith Promise, is not a January to January budget, your faithfulness and commitment to others showed. We had revenue during the year of \$95,493 and expenses of \$94,918.

We have also made major strides in paying down our Capital debt. In July, 2008, we obtained a Line of Credit loan for \$2.6M. As of January 1, 2010, we had reduced our debt to \$839,962; a reduction of over \$1.76M. Thanks again for your efforts to reduce our debt. With your continued gifts, we can soon have it paid off.

As we begin 2010, we are still working to get an Operating Budget in place for the year. We have not received sufficient pledges to allow us to balance the preliminary budget proposal. Currently, our pledges are about 5% less than 2009 and our estimate for plate offerings doesn't cover the difference. We have made a number of cuts in the proposed budget, but Stewardship and Finance have a significant and difficult way to go to arrive at a budget that they can take to the Church Leadership Council for approval. If you haven't turned in a pledge

 First Broad Street
United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 1346
Kingsport, TN 37662
423-246-4471

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for 2010, it is certainly not too late. Pray for those that are working diligently to get a budget in place.

God is good all the time! Through your gifts, He provides us with the financial resources to carry out the ministries and programs He has called us to do. All the time, God is good!

Mike McEntire

Inclement Weather Policy

On Sunday mornings, it is the intent of First Broad Street United Methodist Church to hold regular worship services. We do encourage everyone to exercise sound judgment and not venture out if they cannot do so safely.

Wednesday Night Suppers and Programs will be cancelled if the Kingsport City Schools are closed or close early for inclement weather. For other activities and meetings, cancellation will be decided by the person in charge and every effort will be made to notify all participants. You may also call the Church at 246-4471 and go to Voice Mail Box 7 for a message regarding cancellations or check our website at www.fbsumc.org.